Ms. Marlene Dorich Office of the Secretary **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 10-71

Received & inspected DEC 12 2011 FCC Mail Room

Dear Secretary Dorich:

I am writing to let you know that I protest the current system that provides broadcasters and their affiliates an uneven playing field when it comes to access to their signal. Particularly given that these affiliates are given free government-supplied spectrum. The laws that provide exclusivity and unrestrained signal control are anti-competition and anti-consumer in nature.

While I understand that local cable providers are required by federal regulations to obtain permission to carry the broadcasters' signals, I strongly protest the system that allows for these broadcasters to demand enormous carriage fees and, as a result, causes consumers' cable bills to go up and up.

I think it is vital to the public interest for the FCC to address the issue immediately. It is imperative for the FCC to take action that will curb abusive conduct by TV station owners and protect millions of customers across the nation that are being hurt by federal regulations that encourage unrestrained price gouging.

I believe that broadcasters should be able to make a reasonable profit off of their programming. However, it's time to give the small-town cable company a fighting chance against broadcasters and their affiliates and put in place policies that protect the end consumer.

Thank you,

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